

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO AMCONSUL MUNICH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9739

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR XH CZ

SUBJECT: RADIO FREE EUROPE: EVALUATION REPORT

REFS: A) STATE 51717 B)MUNICH 472 C) BRODY-VALDES

CORRESPONDENCE OF JULY 1974

1. EMBASSY UNDERTAKING EVALUATION OF RFE BROADCASTS REQUESTED IN REF A. FOR THIS PURPOSE WE NEED ENGLISH SCRIPTS FOR TOTAL OUTPUT OF RFE CZECH SERVICE FOR 2-3 DAY PERIOD. WE SUGGEST PERIOD JAN 27-29 OR JAN 20-22, DATES WHICH WE HAVE CHOSEN AT RANDOM AS DEPARTMENT SUGGESTED. AS REPORT DUE APRIL 1, WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SCRIPTS ASAP. SHORTER ITEMS MAY BE SENT IN ORIGINZL CZECH OR SLOVAK VERSIONS IF TO TRANSLATE THEM WOULD IMPOSE UNDUE BURDEN ON RFE STAFF.

2. DEPARTMENT'S RENEWAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR PERIODIC EVALUATION OF RFE BROADCASTS RAISES AGAIN THE ISSUE DISCUSSED IN LETTER FROM EMBOFF BRODY TO PHILIP VALDES DATED JULY 16, 1974. BRODY ASKED THAT ENGLISH SCRIPTS BE SENT TO PRAGUE REGULARLY, IN ADDITION TO THE ENGLISH SUMMAIRES WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING ALL ALONG. VALDES IN HIS ANSWER OF JULY 31, 1974 CITED REASONS HE COULD NOT OFFER MUCH HELP AT THAT TIME, BUT FORSAW THAT RFE WOULD SOON BE TRANSLATING MORE SCRIPTS, THE IMPLICATION BEING THAT PRAGUE WOULD THEN RECEIVE THEM FOR REVIEW. WE GATHER THAT HIS PREDICTION DID NOT COME TO PASS.

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3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TRANSLATIONS OF SELECTED

CZECH AND SLOVAK SCRIPTS TO THE EXTENT RFE CAN PRODUCE THEM. LOCALLY HIRED TRANSLATORS HERE ARE ALREADY FULLY EMPLOYED TRANSLATING FROM CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS, AND WE WOULD HESITATE IN ANY CASE TO PLACE THEM IN POSSIBLE JEOPARDY BY ASKING THEM TO TRANSLATE RFE SCRIPTS. POLITICAL OFFICERS ALSO HAVE LITTLE TIME TO DO TRANSLATIONS OF SCRIPTS. IF RFE RESOURCES WOULD NOT PERMIT TRANSLATION OF SCRIPTS FROM BOTH CZECH AND SLOVAK, EMBASSY WOULD PREFER THAT EFFORT BE CONCENTRATED ON SLOVAK BROADCASTS, AS OUR CZECH SPEAKERS HAVE RELATIVELY MORE DIFFICULTY READING SLOVAK.

4. EMBASSY HAS COPY OF PUBLIC LAW 93-129 AND RFE INTERNAL POLICY GUIDELINES POUCHED TO SOFIA (REF B).
PERRY

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